

[Council to Hancock.]

C. S. C.
No. 129.

To the Hon^{ble} John Hancock Esq^r

Sir. We send you under Guard the Person and Papers of Alexander Ross. We have examined him, and send also copy of his Examination. Among his papers we find several that relate to a Scheme of carrying on the Lumber Trade from West Florida to the Islands in the West Indies, and two Letters of Recommendation from Governor Eden and Lord Dunmore to the Governor of that Department, those papers we consider as most material of any we could find and have put them up in a separate Bundle. The Persons he is supposed to be a Confederate with you have already in your Custody, we mean Smith & Connolly, and we presume also their Papers.

[Council to Maryland Deputies.]

No. 130.

To the Deputies for Maryland in Congress.

Gentⁿ We send the Person of Alexander Ross together with his Papers, and Copy of his Examination under a Guard to the Honorable Congress—have wrote the President to that Purpose. We find several Papers that relate to a Scheme of Trade in West Florida and two letters of Recommendation, one from Governor Eden and the other from Lord Dunmore—these we think are material, his other Papers which we likewise send, we have searched, and find Nothing of Consequence. Since our last Nothing new has occurred except the Examination of M^r Purveyance before our Board; he at first deny'd the anonymous Letter, afterwards on Recollection acknowledged it contained some of his Sentiments but could not remember when he wrote them. he prevaricated most abominably. We hope the Time of calling the Convention will meet with your Approbation, we apprehended bad Consequences from Delay. No Messenger as yet returned from Philadelphia; You may judge that we wish to hear some favorable News from you, be it as it may we have the Satisfaction of thinking that we have done our Duty by endeavouring to keep Peace in the Province.

P. S. We send you a copy of Gen^l Lee's letter to Sam^l Purviance.

[Council to Hanson.]

No. 131.

To John Hanson Esq^r Chairman of the Committee of Fred^k
City: Mid. Dist.

In Council of Safety Annapolis April 25th 1776

Sir,

We received yesterday your Favour of the 15th Instant and